(v) Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) is supplied for automobiles through a number of retail outlets in Delhi to cater to the CNG vehicles.

(vi) Benzene concentration in petrol has been reduced.

(vii) A network of 290 Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations has been set up throughout the country.

(viii) Emission standards for industries have been notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to check pollution.

(ix) Industries are also required to install necessary pollution control equipments before commissioning of their plants.

(x) Industries are required to take consent from the respective State Pollution Control Board under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 11981.

Damage caused by rains in Kerala, Orissa etc.

*289. SHRI V. V. RAGHAVAN:
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of damage caused by heavy rains in Kerala, Orissa, etc.;

(b) whether the affected State Governments have sought any financial assistance from the Centre for relief measures; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the assistance extended by the Centre?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) The Government of Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Orissa, Punjab, Tripura and Uttaranchal have reported damage to life and property due to heavy rains and floods during South-West Monsoon 2001. Statement-I indicating damage to life and property due to heavy rains and floods, as reported by the respective State Government is enclosed. (*See* below)

(b) and (c) It is primarily the responsibility of the State Government to take necessary measures in the wake of natural

calamities including floods. The Central Government supplements the efforts of the States. There is availability of funds with the States under Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) for taking immediate relief measures. A statement indicating State-wise details of release of Central share of CRF during 2001-2002 are given in the Statement-II. (*See* below)

The Governments of Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh and Kerala have submitted memoranda for additional Central assistance in the wake of heavy rains and floods. The Government of Orissa has submitted a preliminary memorandum.

Second instalment of Central share of CRF for 2001-2002 amounting to Rs. 26.48 crore was released to Kerala for undertaking immediate measures in the wake of floods. An ad-hoc assistance of Rs. 100.00 crore from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) has been released to Orissa. In additiona, 3 lakh tonnes of rice has been allocated to Orissa under Food for Work Programme.

Further Central assistance under the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) is dependent on the recommendations of the Inter-Ministerial Team which has already visited Kerala for an asessment of the situation and of the team visiting Chhattisgarh from 8th to 10th August, 2001.

Statement-I

Details of damage to life and property due to heavy rains and floods during South-West Monsoon 2001.

S. No.	Name of State	Human Lives lost (Nos.)	Crop area affected (lakh ha.)	Houses damaged (in lakhs)
1.	Assam	NR	0.13	NR
2.	Bihar	3	0.59	0.21
3.	Chhattisgarh	13	0.77	0.07
4.	Himachal Pradesh	18	0.01	Neg.
5.	Kerala	120	0.40	0.23

S. No.	Name of State	Human Lives lost (Nos.)	Crop area affected (lakh ha.)	Houses damaged (in lakhs)
6.	Orissa	100	9.00	2.00
7.	Punjab	NR	0.24	NR
8.	Tripura	9	NR	NR
9.	Uttaranchal	18	NR	Neg.

NR = Not reported.
Neg. = Negligible.

Statement-II

State-wise details of release to Central share of Calamity Relief Fund during 2001-2002

S. No.	Name of State	Central Share of Calamity Relief Fund Released
1.	Assam	3996.00
2.	Bihar	—
3.	Chhattisgarh	2163.00
4.	Himachal Pradesh	3424.00
5.	Kerala	8603.61
6.	Orissa	6465.75
7.	Punjab	—
8.	Tripura	—
9.	Uttaranchal	—
	TOTAL:	24652.36

Pollution control in cities

†290. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that pollution in most of the cities and towns of the country is increasing day-by-day;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.